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**To:** <CHARACTER\_EDUCATION\_NETWORK@EMAIL.RUTGERS.EDU>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2006 7:04 PM  
**Subject:** CHARACTER\_EDUCATION\_NETWORK Online - 2006 Vol. #10

## **CHARACTER\_EDUCATION\_NETWORK Online Mail List March 2006 - Vol. #10**

Welcome to the **CHARACTER\_EDUCATION\_NETWORK** online mail list. Your name has been added to this list as a result of your completing the New Jersey Department of Education Character Education Network Online Listserv Form or because you have indicated an interest in receiving updates on character education efforts in New Jersey.

The purpose of **The Network** is to encourage the adoption of character education programs and strategies by providing a forum for sharing information, research and promising practices. Through the New Jersey Center for Character Education (NJCCE), **The Network** will offer educators access to national and state character education experts and programs through conferences, workshops, and e-mails.

**The Network** will be bringing you **news** from the national, state and local levels; **best practices**, including updates from our New Jersey Local Education Area (LEA) Partner demonstration sites; announcements of **events, conferences, workshops**; and **professional development opportunities** throughout the state and at the national level; grant and **funding opportunities**; **program and assessment resources** and links to other character education **websites**.

A link to the NJ Center for Character Education website ([www.nj-charactered.net](http://www.nj-charactered.net)) will lead you to current **articles** and **research** from the field as well as materials and large documents which you can download for use in your classroom.

### **In this issue of The Network**

- **NJCCE Director's message**
- **April Last Month to Attend Scheduled CEP Eleven Principles Workshops**
- **March 15 Deadline: Submit Your CEP Promising Practice Applications**
- **Date Change for CEP Forum**
- **Summer Professional Development Opportunities**
- **Two new publications from CASEL**

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### **FROM THE NJCCE DIRECTOR**

I am delighted to invite you as a member of **The Network** to attend a statewide conference highlighting the progress we have made in developing high quality character education and social-emotional learning programs that are making a difference in the lives of students and school staff in schools throughout New Jersey. The conference will be a culminating event for the Department of Education's four year *Partnerships in Character Education* grant from the U.S. Department of Education. So . .

**Save the Date: May 25, 2006**  
**for the Character Education Conference 2006**  
*New Jersey—Leading the Nation in Character Education:*  
*A celebration of successful initiatives that develop young people of good character*  
 at Busch Campus Center, Rutgers University Piscataway, NJ

The conference will be without charge, and we will notify you as soon as registration information is available. The conference will feature presentations by educators from many of the schools that NJCCE has worked with during the past three years, opportunities for you to talk with them directly about their work, student presentations at the elementary, middle and high school levels, and a keynote address by Dr. Nel Noddings, Professor emeritus from Stanford University, one of the most ardent and eloquent voices for moral education in the country. We will also be announcing the winners of the first *New Jersey School of Character* award process.

We look forward to seeing you on May 25<sup>th</sup>.

Philip M. Brown, Ph.D.  
 Director

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#### CHARACTER EDUCATION NEWS

- *Date Change for the Character Education Partnership National Forum*  
 The Character Education Partnership has announced a new date for the CEP National Forum. The Forum will be held on October 26-28, 2006 at the Marriot Crystal Gateway in Arlington, Virginia. For more information and Forum details, visit, <http://www.character.org>.

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#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- *Last Two CEP Eleven Principles of Effective Character Education™ Sourcebook Institutes Coming in April*

Date: Monday, April 3, 2006

Time: 8:00am to 3:00pm

Location: Cook Campus Center, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

Date: Thursday, April 6, 2006

Time: 8:00am to 3:00pm

Location: Busch Student Center, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ

(Check-in and refreshments are at 8:00am, and the workshop begins promptly at 8:30am.)

Educators may register online for either of the April 2006 Institutes through the NJDOE Professional Development and Technical Assistance website at: <http://education.state.nj.us/events/>.

1. Click on *Details* for a full description of the Institute, including dates and times;
2. Click on *Directions* to review and print directions to the specific training location;
3. Click on *Register* to complete and submit your online registration.

NJ Character Education Partnership (NJCEP) state aid funds may be used to cover the cost of registration and to purchase the training manual. NJCCE also offers schools and districts the Eleven Principles Sourcebook training in a seminar format, customized to reflect a school or district's unique needs. Trainings can be scheduled in a one- or two-day format and delivered in-house or at a location determined by the school or district. For more information, contact NJCCE at 732.445.7504.

- *The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual National Service-Learning Conference*  
*"We the People"*  
*March 22-25, 2006*  
*Pennsylvania Convention Center*  
*Philadelphia, PA*

Sponsored by the National Youth Leadership Council, The National Service-Learning Conference is the largest gathering of youths and practitioners involved in the service-learning movement, drawing nearly 2,900 attendees from across the United States and 41 other countries. It focuses on service-learning as a way of teaching and learning that builds academic skills and citizenship while addressing community needs in a real way. The conference convenes teachers and other service-learning practitioners, administrators, educators of pre-service teachers, researchers, policy-makers, youth leaders, parents, program coordinators, national service members, community-based organization staffs, and corporate and foundation officers.

President Bill Clinton will be speaking at the We the People Gala, on Thursday, March 23, 2006, 7:00 p.m., at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. Admission is included in conference registration. For more information, visit <https://programs.regweb.com/metro/NSLC2006/>.

- *The Bill of Rights Institute Offers Professional Development Programs*  
 Summer and fall opportunities are available for those wishing to hold a customized Bill of Rights Institute program in their town. The professional development programs offer:
  - \* Solid academic content
  - \* Ready-to-use classroom applications tied to standards
  - \* Instructional materials to take back to the classroom
  - \* Primary source activities such as the Bill of Rights, Constitution, Declaration of Independence, and Magna Carta
  - \* Networking with other Social Studies teachers from across the nation
  - \* On-going professional development through e-mail newsletters.

All program formats feature a master teacher with pedagogical expertise and a scholar with broad knowledge of constitutional issues and key court rulings. Formats include:

- \* Single presentations
- \* Half day presentations
- \* One or two-day seminars
- \* Seminar series offered over a multi-year period
- \* Weeklong institutes

Programs offer a wide variety of topics to choose from, including:

- \* Origins and Arguments: Shaping the Bill of Rights
  - \* Freedom of Expression: From James Madison to the Internet
  - \* The Bill of Rights in the News
  - \* Media and American Democracy: Looking for Answers in an Online World
  - \* Being An American: Exploring the Ideals that Unite Us
  - \* The Bill of Rights for Real Life
  - \* Landmark Supreme Court Cases in United States History
  - \* The Bill of Rights in Times of Crisis

For more information on possible programs for your school district, visit the Institute's website at <http://www.billofrightsinstitute.org/>. The Institute is also available to partner with school districts for Teaching American History Grants, Character Education grants, and Professional Development (Title II) grants. Call (800) 838-7870, ext. 11 for more information.

- *Center for Social and Emotional Education 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Institute*  
*"Educating Minds and Hearts: Creating a Climate for Learning"*  
*July 11-14, 2006*  
*City College of New York*  
*365 Fifth Avenue, New York*

The Institute focuses on ways school communities can establish effective social, emotional, and character education programs in schools. The evidence-based guidelines presented will include research findings about what works in social emotional learning, school climate, character education, health promotion, risk prevention, and school-based mental health. For more information, visit [www.csee.net/Summerinstitute.aspx](http://www.csee.net/Summerinstitute.aspx) or contact Laura Shapiro, Director of Education at [lshapiro@csee.net](mailto:lshapiro@csee.net) or 212.707.8799.

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## NATIONAL CHARACTER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

- *Character Education Partnership (CEP) Promising Practice Awards Applicants:*  
*Tomorrow - March 15 is the deadline!*  
 Those of you who are putting the finishing touches on your Promising Practice applications, remember that tomorrow is the deadline. **Applications must be post-marked by March 15, 2006.** Promising Practices awards are given to schools or districts that illustrate unique and specific practices. For more details, visit [www.character.org](http://www.character.org). Award recipients will be honored at the CEP National Forum next October, and included in the National School of Character CD and CEP website.

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## GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- *Nominate a Young Service-Learning Leader for a \$2,000 Barron Prize*  
 The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes honors young people, ages 8 to 18, who have shown leadership and courage in public service. Ten national winners will receive awards to support their service work or high education.  
 For more information or to nominate a candidate, visit <http://www.barronprize.org/>. Nominations must be made by the April 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.

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## WEBSITE NEWS, RESOURCES AND RESEARCH

- *Edutopia Exhibit Hall*

The George Lucas Educational Foundation (GLEF) was founded in 1991 as a nonprofit operating foundation to celebrate and encourage innovation in schools. Since that time, they have been documenting, disseminating, and advocating for exemplary programs in K-12 public schools to help these practices spread nationwide. Educators will find detailed articles, in-depth case studies, research summaries, instructional modules, short documentary segments, expert interviews, and links to hundreds of relevant resources on their website: <http://www.edutopia.org/>.

Recently, a new resource, The Edutopia Exhibit Hall, has been added to the website. It gives educators direct access to the most innovative education solutions from a variety of sources. You'll find a growing breadth of solutions from the biggest names in education tools and technology. It's the first showcase exclusively for solutions that are changing education for the better. (Note: The Exhibit Hall content is paid advertising.) Visit <http://www.exhibithall.org/> to browse the Exhibit Hall.

- *Edutopia: Success Stories for Learning in the Digital Age (Book and CD)*

This resource offers a look at educators who are using technology to connect with students, colleagues, and the community. It also contains a list of books, websites, and organizations. The following topics are included: social and emotional learning, project-based learning, assessment, parental involvement, business and community partnerships, leadership development, and more. Call 1.888.453.3674 to order your copy for \$19.95 or visit <http://www.edutopia.org/products/edbook.php> to learn more.

- *New Publications for Educators from the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)*

*The Educator's Guide to Emotional Intelligence and Academic Achievement: Social-Emotional Learning in the Classroom* from editors Maurice Elias (who serves as Senior Advisor to NJCCE) and Harriett Arnold is now available. The guide provides information regarding theory, resources, top programs, and descriptions of the ways social-emotional skills can be taught to children. Best practice programs are also included. One of the chapters is written by Linda Bruene Butler and Victoria Poedubicky, based on their work in one of the NJCCE demonstration site schools in the Highland Park School District. For more information, visit: <http://www.corwinpress.com/book.aspx?pid=11591>.

*Building Academic Success on Social and Emotional Learning: What Does the Research Say?* is a new book from CASEL about social-emotional learning interventions that improve student academic outcomes. For more information about this book, visit <http://store.tcpres.com/0807744395.shtml>.

- *CASEL E-Newsletter Provides SEL Research and Practice Updates*

*CASEL Connections*, CASEL's e-newsletter is intended to keep educators, administrators and parents up-to-date on the latest news from the SEL field. It provides information around a specific important theme in SEL work, and spotlights research, practice, policy, resources, recommended books as well as conferences and grants.

The FCASEL ("Friends of CASEL") listserv manages subscriber information. To subscribe, go to <http://www.casel.org/listservs/index.php> or send an e-mail to Cynthia Coleman at [colemanc@uic.edu](mailto:colemanc@uic.edu) with "subscribe FCASEL" in the subject line.

- ***New Curricula Available from the Bill of Rights Institute***  
The Bill of Rights Institute is releasing two new curriculums focusing on the First Amendment: *Faces of Freedom in American History* (for middle school), and *Conflict & Continuity: The Story of American Freedom* (for high school students). Each product contains relevant content and engaging activities to help meet standards, improve comprehension, and build reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. Visit [www.BillofRightsInstitute.org/](http://www.BillofRightsInstitute.org/) to browse through their catalog, download sample lessons from teaching guides, or sign up for free eLessons.
- ***CHOICES for the 21st Century - Explore the Past... Shape the Future  
History and Current Issues for the Classroom***  
CHOICES for the 21st Century is an educational outreach program of the Watson Institute for International Studies at Brown University. Through its curricular resources, professional development programs, and special projects, CHOICES engages secondary level students in current and historical international issues and contributes to a renewal of civic engagement among young people in the United States. For more information, visit their website at: <http://www.choices.edu/>.
- ***Kidsbridge Mini-Museum Opening Soon***  
Kidsbridge Children's Museum and The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) are collaborating to create a cutting edge partnership to teach diversity appreciation and character education to elementary school children. The Kidsbridge Children's Museum, located at The College of New Jersey, will open on March 29th. A learning lab featuring "Face to Face: Dealing with Prejudice and Discrimination", created by the Chicago Children's Museum will be on exhibit. For more information, visit [www.kidsbridgemuseum.org](http://www.kidsbridgemuseum.org) or call (609) 396-4300.